

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 L-03

NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 ACDA-19 OMB-01

SAJ-01 MBFR-03 EA-11 RSR-01 /145 W
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R 251556 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4527

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AOMCONSUL POZNAN

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PL

SUBJECT: NINTH CC PLENUM

REF: WARSAW 3077

1. SUMMARY: THE NINTH CC PLENUM JUNE 22 WAS DEVOTED
PRIMARILY TO A DISCUSSION OF IMPROVEMENT IN PERFORMANCE,
QUALITY AND UTILIZATION OF THE LABOR FORCE.
IT ANTICIPATED A SHORTAGE OF WORKERS AS PRODUCTION CONTINUES
TO EXPAND AND THE DEMOGRAPHIC CURVE TURNS DOWNWARD.
ON UNRELATED MATTERS, THE CC RELIEVED NEWLY NAMED MINISTER
OF THE INTERIOR KOWALCZYK OF HIS DUTIES AS CC SECRETARY
AND APPOINTED HIM A CANDIDATE POLITBURO MEMBER -- THE FIRST
TIME IN RECENT YEARS AN INTERIOR MINISTER HAS BEEN A
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MEMBER OF THE PARTY' S RULING ORGANS. THE CC ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT A NATIONAL PARTY CONFERENCE, TO ASSESS ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE MIDWAY BETWEEN THE SIXTH AND SEVENTH CONGRESSES, WILL CONVENE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1973. END SUMMARY.

2. THE NINTH CC PLENUM, WHICH MET FOR ONE DAY JUNE 22, WAS DEVOTED TO A DISCUSSION OF HOW BES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE OF THE POLISH LABOR FORCE AND TO DEAL WITH PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE SHORTAGES OF WORKERS. SOME CONTINUING PROBLEMS, INCLUDING LOW PRODUCTIVITY, ABSENTEEISM AND " LACK OF WORK DISCIPLINE", WERE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH, BUT THE OVER- ALL TONE WAS OPTIMISTIC, PERHAPS REFLECTING THE IMPROVEMENT IN ECONOMIC STATISTICS EVIDENT IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1973.

3. IN A LONG SPEECH TO THE PLENUM, FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK SUMMARIZED THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN GENERAL TERMS AND ALSO TOUCHED ON FOREIGN RELATIONS. ONE MAJOR POINT OF EMPHASIS IN GIEREK' S REMARKS (ASSUME DEPARTMENT HAS TEXT) WAS ON WORKER SHORTAGES, A THEME HE RETURNED TO FOUR TIMES IN DIFFERENT CONTEXTS. HE PROPOSED TO MEET THIS PROBLEM BY, INTER ALIA, INCREASING LABOR PRODUCTIVITY, RATIONALIZING EMPLOYMENT, AND, AS HE DELICATELY PUT IT, " STIMULATING THE PROCESSES OF POPULATION GROWTH," SOMETHING HE ADMITTED WOULD NOT BE EASY.

4. ACCORDING TO GIEREK (AND CC SECRETARY SZYDLAK WHO ALSO ADDRESSED THE PLENUM) A KEY ELEMENT IN THE REGIME' S APPROACH TO LABOR ORGANIZATION WOULD BE ITS WAGE POLICY. THE WAGES OF AN INDIVIDUAL WORKER, GIEREK SAID, MUSTBE MADE DEPENDENT ON HIS INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION. ALTHOUGH THE FIRST SECRETARY DID NOT GO INTO DETAIL, HIS COMMENTS WERE A PRELUDE TO SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES IN THE BONUS REGULATIONS APPROVED BY THE SEJM THE FOLLOWING DAY. (THIS WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF A SEPARATE REPORT.)

5. ASIDE FROM HIS REMARKS ON THE US AND INDOCHINA (REFTTEL), THE ONLY OTHER POINT OF INTEREST IN GIEREK' S COMMENTS ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAS HIS ASSERTION THAT THE " HISTORICAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONFRONTATION" OF THE TWO SYSTEMS WOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO A GREATER EXTENT TO THE AREAS OF ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, CULTURE AND CONSCIOUSNESS, AND THE " IDEOLOGICAL BATTLE". IN THIS SITUATION, GIEREK SAID, POLAND' S DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL " TASKS" WERE " INDIVISIBLE"; POLAND MUST SPEED INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT AND " BUILD A BETTER LIFE FOR OUR NATION."

6. IN ANOTHER SECTION, THE CC ANNOUNCED THAT THE NATIONAL PARTY CONFERENCE TO REASSESS THE ECONOMIC PLAN MIDWAY BETWEEN PARTY CONGRESSES WOULD TAKE PLACE IN " THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1973." SINCE THE CC ALSO SAID THAT THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE PRECEDED BY A " PARTY DEED" ON A FREE DAY (IN ALL PROBABILITY, A WORKING SUNDAY FOR PARTY MEMBERS) IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE PARTY CONFERENCE WILL NOT OCCUR UNTIL AT LEAST NOVEMBER.

7. AS EXPECTED, THE CC REMOVED STANISLAW KOWALCZYK FROM HIS POSITION AS CC SECRETARY IN CONNECTION WITH HIS APPOINTMENT EARLIER (WARSAW 1392) AS MINISTER OF INTERIOR AFFAIRS. BREAKING WITH PRECEDENT, HOWEVER, THE CC THEN APPOINTED MINISTER KOWALCZYK A CANDIDATE MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO.

8. COMMENT: KOWALCZYK' S APPOINTMENT TO THE POLITBURO DOES NOT ACCORD WITH NORMAL POLISH PRACTICE, ALTHOUGH THIS CASE WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT SINCE KOWALCZYK WAS ALREADY A CC SECRETARY WHEN HE BECAME INTERIOR MINISTER. WE THINK IT LIKELY THAT KOWALCZYK, WHOSE PRIME RECOMMENDATION FOR THE INTERIOR JOB SEEMS NOT TO HAVE BEEN EXPERTISE (HIS SPECIALITY WAS HEAVY INDUSTRY) SO MUCH AS CLOSE TIES TO THE FIRST SECRETARY, WAS TOO VALUABLE AN ALLY FOR GIEREK TO LOSE FROM AMONG THE PARTY LEADERSHIP. THE RECENT SOVIET PRECEDENT MAY ALSO HAVE CARRIED SOME WEIGHT HERE, IF ONLY TO PROVIDE A CONVENIENT EXCUSE FOR THE ACTION TAKEN.
DAVIES.

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